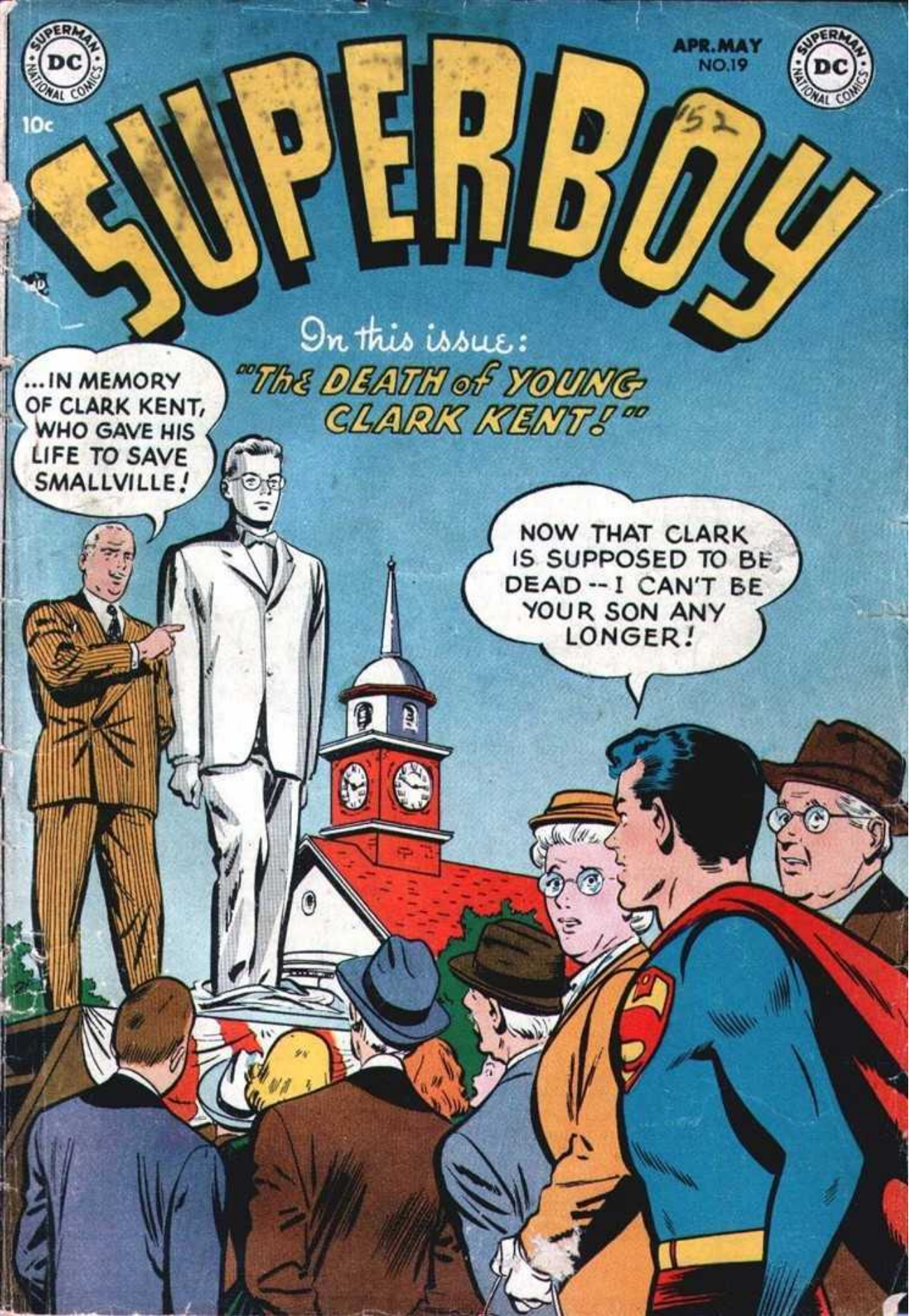
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
APR.MAY NO.19
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
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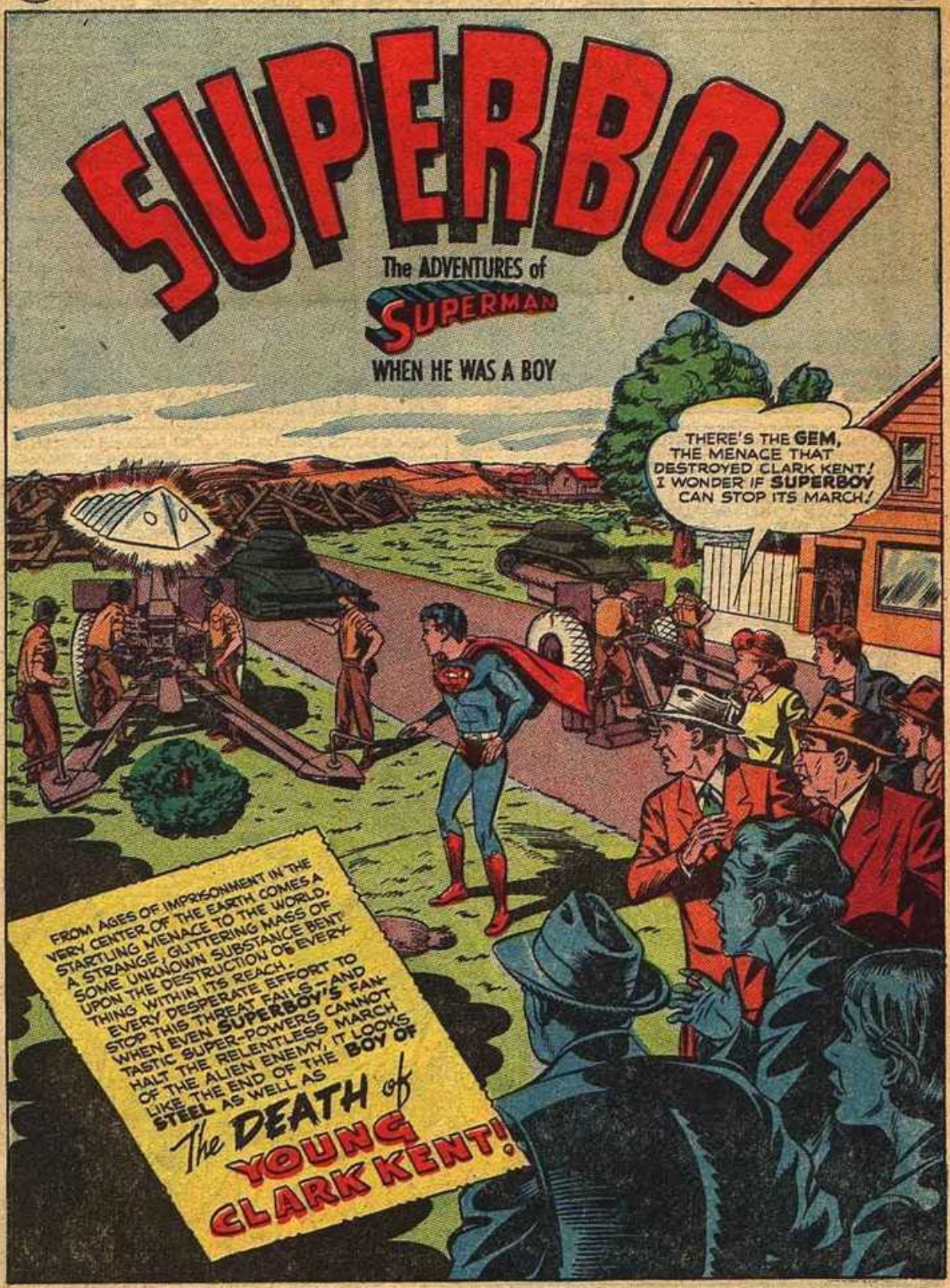
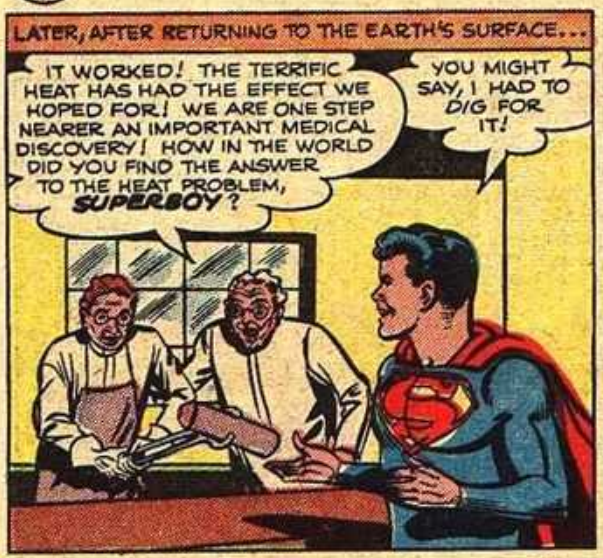
'52
SUPERBOY
On this issue:
"The DEATH of YOUNG CLARK KENT!"
...IN MEMORY OF CLARK KENT, WHO GAVE HIS LIFE TO SAVE SMALLVILLE!
NOW THAT CLARK IS SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD -- I CAN'T BE YOUR SON ANY LONGER!


SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN
WHEN HE WAS A BOY
THERE'S THE GEM, THE MENACE THAT DESTROYED CLARK KENT! I WONDER IF SUPERBOY CAN STOP ITS MARCH!
FROM AGES OF IMPRISONMENT IN THE VERY CENTER OF THE EARTH COMES A STARTLING MENACE TO THE WORLD. A STRANGE, GLITTERING MASS OF SOME UNKNOWN SUBSTANCE BENT UPON THE DESTRUCTION OF EVERY THING WITHIN ITS REACH. EVERY DESPERATE EFFORT TO STOP THIS THREAT FAILS—AND WHEN EVEN SUPERBOY'S FANTASTIC SUPER-POWERS CANNOT HALT THE RELENTLESS MARCH OF THE ALIEN ENEMY, IT LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE BOY OF STEEL AS WELL AS
The DEATH of YOUNG CLARK KENT!

ONE DAY, IN A TINY LABORATORY IN THE SMALLVILLE HOSPITAL...
IT'S NO USE, DR. HOSKINS! THE EQUIPMENT WE HAVE HERE CANNOT POSSIBLY GENERATE THE HEAT WE NEED--THIS CYLINDER MUST BE EXPOSED TO EVEN MORE HEAT THAN SCIENCE HAS EVER PRODUCED!
THIS MEANS WE HAVE FAILED! AND JUST WHEN WE WERE ON THE THRESHOLD OF A GREAT DISCOVERY--A DISCOVERY THAT COULD HELP CONQUER DISEASE!
BUT UNKNOWN TO THE SCIENTISTS, THEIR CONVERSATION IS OVERHEARD BY A PASSERBY! IT IS YOUNG CLARK KENT, SECRETLY THE BOY OF STEEL, RETURNING FROM SCHOOL...
MY SUPER-HEARING ENABLED ME TO HEAR ENOUGH OF WHAT THOSE SCIENTISTS SAID TO REALIZE THERE'S A JOB HERE FOR SUPERBOY!
A LIGHTNING CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND...
GENTLEMEN, IF IT'S A SUPER-HEAT TREATMENT THIS CYLINDER NEEDS, I CAN ARRANGE THAT! EVEN IF I HAVE TO GO HALFWAY THROUGH THE WORLD TO DO IT!
SUPER-BOY! AH! OUR PROJECT MAY BE SAVED!
THEN STARTS ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING DESCENTS IN HISTORY AS THE BOY OF TOMORROW BURROWS INTO SUBTERRANEAN DEPTHS...
THIS SEDIMENTARY LAYER TOOK A MILLION YEARS TO BUILD UP BUT I'M PASSING THROUGH IT IN SECONDS!
DOWN, DOWN HURTLES THE POWERFUL HUMAN DRILL! THROUGH THE GRANITE LAYER, THE DIORITE LAYER, THE ECLOGITE LAYER...
AND FINALLY, SUPERBOY CRASHES THE RAGING INFERNO WHICH IS THE EARTH'S CORE...
IF THIS HEAT DOESN'T DO THE TRICK, NOTHING WILL!
2


LATER, AFTER RETURNING TO THE EARTH'S SURFACE...
IT WORKED! THE TERRIFIC HEAT HAS HAD THE EFFECT WE HOPED FOR! WE ARE ONE STEP NEARER AN IMPORTANT MEDICAL DISCOVERY! HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU FIND THE ANSWER TO THE HEAT PROBLEM, SUPERBOY?
YOU MIGHT SAY, I HAD TO DIG FOR IT!

BUT SUPERBOY DOES NOT KNOW OF THE FANTASTIC FORCE HIS FEAT HAS RELEASED! FOR THAT NIGHT, AS THE WORLD SLEEPS, SOMETHING DESTINED TO THREATEN THE VERY EXISTENCE OF ALL LIFE ON THIS PLANET ESCAPES FROM ITS EONS OF IMPRISONMENT AT THE CENTER OF THE EARTH...

YES, UP THROUGH THE VERY CHANNEL WHICH THE BOY OF STEEL HAD SO RECENTLY CARVED, COMES A MOVING MASS OF BLINDING BRILLIANCE! THIS MAMMOTH BODY, WHICH, IN SOME LONG FORGOTTEN CENTURY, HAD PLUMMETED FROM SPACE TO THE EARTH'S HEART, IS NOW FREE!

SLOWLY, STEADILY THE GLITTERING MASS MOVES OVER THE EARTH'S SURFACE! IT REACHES A COAL YARD...
...AND THE COAL YARD IS NO MORE!

IT MOVES THROUGH A GREAT FOREST...
...AND SILENTLY, AS IF THEY HAD NEVER EXISTED, HUNDREDS OF TREES ARE NO MORE!

YES, RELENTLESSLY AND WITHOUT EMOTION, THIS FABULOUS MASS MOVES ONWARD THROUGH THE NIGHT ABSORBING EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH AND LEAVING NO TRACE BEHIND! AND NEXT MORNING IN SMALLVILLE, AS CLARK KENT DELIVERS ORDERS FROM HIS FATHER'S GENERAL STORE...
THAT FANTASTIC MONSTER! IT'S DEVOURING EVERYTHING IN IT'S PATH! THOSE PEOPLE ARE IN DANGER AND I'VE NO TIME TO SWITCH TO SUPERBOY!
3
IF CLARK ONLY KNEW THAT IT WAS HE, AS SUPERBOY, WHO HAS RELEASED THIS MENACE UPON THE WORLD!

WHILE THE OTHERS ARE STILL PARALYZED BY FEAR, CLARK MAKES AN INSTANT DECISION...
SINCE I CAN'T USE MY SUPERBOY POWERS WHILE DRESSED AS CLARK KENT, THIS TRACTOR CAN MAKE UP FOR A LITTLE OF MY SUPER-STRENGTH!

BUT THEN, BEFORE THE SHOCK-GLAZED EYES OF CLARK'S FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS, A STARTLING SCENE TAKES PLACE...
EEEEK! IT'S CLARK KENT! HE'S BEING SWALLOWED UP BY THAT THING!
IT'S...IT'S LIKE SOME HUGE GEM THAT'S ABSORBING HIM!

AND IN A MOMENT IT IS ALL OVER, AND CLARK KENT HAS VANISHED AS THOUGH HIS BODY HAD NEVER EXISTED!
(SOB) CLARK'S GONE! HE GAVE HIS LIFE TO SAVE US!
THAT GIANT GEM--OR WHATEVER IT IS--WILL DESTROY US ALL! LET'S EVACUATE THE TOWN!

AND AS THE PEOPLE OF SMALLVILLE FLEE FROM THE PATH OF THE OMINOUS CREEPING MONSTER, INSIDE THE GLITTERING MASS AN AMAZING SCENE TAKES PLACE...
IT'S LUCKY FOR ME I'M INVULNERABLE, ELSE THIS THING WOULD HAVE DESTROYED EVEN ME! BUT NOW I'VE GOT A PROBLEM! I WAS SEEN ENTERING AS CLARK KENT! I CAN'T EMERGE AS SUPERBOY!

I'LL WAIT UNTIL THIS MASS MOVES BEYOND THE POINT WHERE CLARK WAS SEEN BEING SWALLOWED BEFORE I COME OUT! THAT WAY NO ONE WILL SUSPECT MY IDENTITY!

USING HIS UNCANNY X-RAY VISION TO SEE THROUGH HIS CRYSTAL PRISON, SUPERBOY PICKS A MOMENT WHEN THE RAVENOUS MASS IS OUT OF SIGHT OF ONLOOKERS AND THEN...
AH! IT'S GOOD TO GET OUT OF THERE!
WOOO WOOO

WOOOOOO
SQEEEEEE!
THAT TRAIN! IT'S RIGHT IN THE PATH OF THAT MONSTER! THAT THING WILL ABSORB IT UNLESS I DO SOMETHING QUICKLY!

SUDDENLY, LIKE SOME GREAT-WINGED BIRD, THE BOY OF STEEL SWOOPS BENEATH THE RAILROAD BRIDGE...

THEN, PUTTING HIS MIGHTY MUSCLES INTO PLAY, HE PERFORMS AN AMAZING FEAT...
NOW TO MOVE THIS TRAIN OUT OF DANGER'S PATH!

AND LATER, IN SMALLVILLE...
THERE'S SUPERBOY! HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE THE WORLD FROM THIS MENACE!
HMM... IT CUT A STRAIGHT PATH RIGHT THROUGH TOWN -- JUST AS IF A TORNADO HAD BEEN HERE!
SMALLV GAZE

THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE ARE ORGANIZING A BIG ATTACK AGAINST THE GEM! ARE YOU GOING TO FIGHT IT, SUPERBOY?
I'VE ALREADY... ER.. CONTACTED IT! AND I'LL DO MY BEST TO STOP IT!
HMM... SO THE NEWSPAPERS ARE CALLING IT "THE GEM"! GEMS COME FROM BELOW THE EARTH'S SURFACE! I WONDER IF...?
GIANT GEM THREATENS NATION!!

SECONDS AFTER, SUPERBOY SOARS HIGH ABOVE SMALLVILLE! AND FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, A HORRIBLE SUSPICION IS CONFIRMED!
THE PATH OF DESTRUCTION STARTS AT THE POINT WHERE I BORED DOWN TO THE EARTH'S CENTER! THIS IS ALL MY FAULT! I RELEASED THE GEM UPON THE WORLD!

AT SUPER-SPEED THE BOY OF STEEL HURTLES ACROSS THE CONTINENT! AND WHEN HE RETURNS, SECONDS AFTER . . .
THESE GIANT REDWOOD TREES FROM CALIFORNIA WILL PLUG UP THAT HOLE SO NONE OF ITS PALS GETS A WHIFF OF EARTH'S AIR AND IS TEMPTED TO EXPLORE THIS EXIT!

AND LATER...
MAMMOTH POWDER PLANT
DANGER EXPLOSIVES
THE GEM'S GOING TO MOVE RIGHT OVER THAT DYNAMITE FACTORY! MY X-RAY VISION SHOWS EVERYONE IS SAFELY OUT SO I WON'T TRY TO STOP IT! THE LOSS OF ONE FACTORY WILL BE WORTH GETTING RID OF THIS MENACE!

PRESENTLY...
NOTHING'S HAPPENING! THE GEM HAS EATEN UP TONS OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES -- AND IT'S STILL MOVING ON!
PERHAPS I CAN DETONATE THAT DYNAMITE BY CREATING A CONCUSSION! KEEP THE CROWDS BACK, OFFICER!
DANGER! EXPLOSIVES

TENSELY, THE CROWD WAITS AS SUPERBOY SMASHES INTO THE GEM, LIKE A PUNY DAVID CHARGING A MIGHTY GOLIATH . . .
NO GOOD! THE DYNAMITE HAS BEEN ABSORBED AND IS NOW THE SAME SUBSTANCE AS THE GEM ITSELF!
PLOP!

THERE SEEMS NO WAY TO STOP IT! I DARE NOT BORE ANOTHER HOLE TO THE EARTH'S CENTER IN THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD RETURN FOR FEAR OF RELEASING MORE OF THESE DESTRUCTIVE MONSTERS!
6

BUT PRESENTLY, THE PATH OF RAVAGE LEADS TO THE OCEAN'S EDGE AND...
IT'S GOING INTO THE OCEAN! IT WILL BE DROWNED! NOW THIS NIGHTMARE IS OVER!
HMMM... I'M NOT SO SURE!

AND SOON AFTER, BACK IN SMALLVILLE...
IF ONLY I COULD BE SURE THE MENACE WAS OVER, BUT I'M AFRAID... STRANGE HOW QUIET THE TOWN APPEARS! AND EVERYONE LOOKS SO SAD!
OH, SUPERBOY! WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU! PLEASE COME WITH US TO THE UNVEILING CEREMONY!

PRESENTLY, IN THE TOWN SQUARE...
IT IS FITTING THAT YOU PULL THE CORD WHICH WILL UNVEIL THE STATUE, SUPERBOY!
THIS MUST BE SOMETHING THE TOWN PLANNED WHILE I WAS BUSY WITH THE GEM! EVERYONE BUT I SEEMS TO KNOW ALL ABOUT IT. HMM... MOM AND DAD KENT ARE LOOKING AT ME RATHER STRANGELY! WHAT'S UP?

AT THE PROPER MOMENT, SUPERBOY PULLS THE CORD AND MAKES A STARTLING DISCOVERY...
...AND SO THIS STATUE OF CLARK KENT WILL BE A CONSTANT REMINDER OF THE BRAVE LAD WHO GAVE HIS LIFE TO SAVE OTHERS! MR. AND MRS. KENT, YOU HAVE THE SYMPATHY OF ALL SMALLVILLE IN YOUR GREAT LOSS!
WHY... ER... AH... THANK YOU, MAYOR!
A STATUE TO COMMEMORATE CLARK KENT! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN PEOPLE SAW CLARK SWALLOWED UP! SINCE THEY DON'T KNOW THAT KENT IS SUPERBOY, THEY NATURALLY ASSUME HE'S DEAD!
DEDICATED
THE MEMORY OF
LARK KENT
WHO GAVE HIS LIFE
ET OTHERS MAY LIVE

AND AFTER THE CEREMONY...
OH, SUPERBOY! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU! WE KNEW, OF COURSE, THAT YOU WERE SAFE, SON, BUT WE COULDN'T TELL ANYONE ELSE THAT CLARK WASN'T DEAD WITHOUT GIVING AWAY YOUR IDENTITY!
MEANWHILE, EVERYONE IN TOWN IS OFFERING SYMPATHIES FOR THE LOSS OF OUR SON!

GUESS IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR FOLKS TO SEE YOU VISIT HERE, SUPERBOY! THEY'LL THINK YOU'RE JUST COMING TO PAY YOUR RESPECTS!
OH... (SOB)... IT'S SO AWFUL! SINCE EVERYONE'S CONVINCED THAT CLARK KENT'S DEAD, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH US ANY MORE-- WE... WE'VE LOST OUR SON!
PLEASE, MOM! DON'T CRY! I'LL FIGURE SOME WAY TO EXPLAIN THE RETURN OF CLARK KENT!
BUT A DOZEN WITNESSES SAW CLARK CONSUMED BY THE GEM! HOW WILL HE EVER EXPLAIN HIS SURVIVAL?

BUT THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF *THE GEM* MAKES **SUPERBOY** FORGET HIS OWN WORRIES...

HMM... WHILE ON LAND, *THE GEM* FOLLOWED A PERFECTLY *STRAIGHT* ROUTE! NOW THAT IT'S UNDER WATER, I HAVE A HUNCH IT'S STILL CONTINUING THAT WAY... SAY! THIS MAY BE THE ANSWER I'VE BEEN AFTER! BUT IT MEANS I'VE A LOT OF WORK AHEAD-- BEGINNING WITH A FAST TRIP!

PRESENTLY, THE AMAZING YOUTH ROCKETS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC WITH THE EASE OF AN AVERAGE BOY JUMPING A NARROW STREAM...

THERE'S THE COAST OF FRANCE! AND I'M NOT AN INSTANT TOO SOON! *THE GEM* IS JUST EMERGING AFTER MARCHING ALL THE WAY FROM THE U. S. ON THE OCEAN FLOOR!

SWIFTLY **SUPERBOY** SPEEDS TOWARD ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREAT CAPITALS -- PARIS...

SO FAR, THE STRAIGHT LINE *THE GEM* HAS FOLLOWED FROM THE COAST HASN'T PASSED THROUGH ANY MAJOR CITIES! BUT NOW IT'S HEADED FOR THE *EIFFEL TOWER*-- ONE OF THE GREATEST MAN-MADE STRUCTURES! I MUST SAVE IT!

QUICKLY REMOVING THE GIANT BOLTS WHICH ANCHOR THE FAMOUS TOWER TO ITS BASE, THE BOY OF TOMORROW LIFTS THE STRUCTURE FROM THE PATH OF DESTRUCTION! BUT...

THE TOWER'S SAFE-- BUT THAT CROWD! IT'S OUT OF CONTROL! IF I DON'T HELP CALM THEIR PANIC, MANY WILL BE KILLED. MEANWHILE, WHAT CAN I DO WITH THE TOWER? NOTHING BUT ITS SPECIAL BASE WILL SUPPORT ITS WEIGHT!

HERE'S THE ANSWER! I TURN THE TOWER UPSIDE DOWN AND SPIN IT! WHEN I GET UP ENOUGH SPEED, I CAN LEAVE IT MOMENTARILY AND IT WILL REMAIN UPRIGHT LIKE A *GIANT SPINNING TOP!*

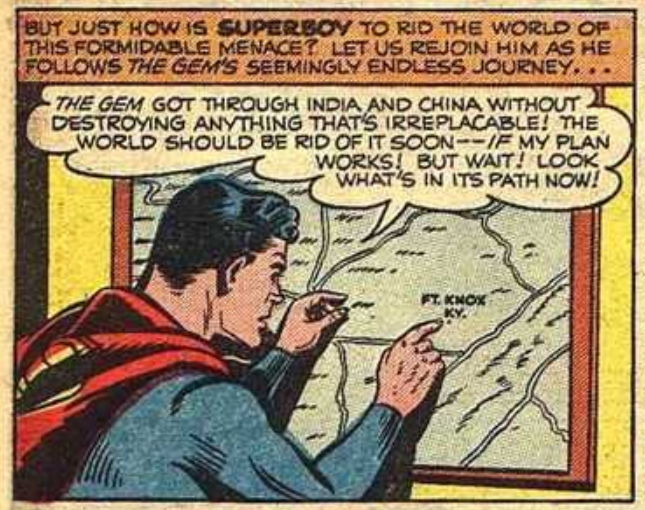
MES AMIS, DO NOT BE ALARMED! IF YOU KEEP OUT OF ITS PATH, *THE GEM* WILL NOT HARM YOU!

IT IS THE **SUPER-GARCON** FROM AMERICA! HEED HIS WORDS!

AND LATER, AFTER REPLACING THE RENOWNED LANDMARK...
IT'S STILL FOLLOWING A STRAIGHT PATH SO MY PLAN TO GET RID OF THE GEM HAS EVERY CHANCE OF SUCCESS! BUT THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF WORK! HMM...WHEN IT REACHES EGYPT, I MAY HAVE SOME TROUBLE!
PRESENTLY, OUTSIDE ONE OF EUROPE'S LARGEST STEEL PLANTS...
FIRST, I'LL SCOOP OUT THE EARTH FOR A GIANT MOLD!
AND WHEN THIS METAL COOLS, I'LL HAVE A COLOSSAL SHOVEL!
SOON AFTER, THE SILENT SANDS OF EGYPT'S GREAT DESERT ARE WITNESS TO A SCENE NEVER BEFORE EQUALED IN ALL THEIR FABULOUS HISTORY...
JUST AS I THOUGHT! THIS ANCIENT PYRAMID IS IN THE GEM'S PATH! I COULDN'T LIFT THE PYRAMID IN MY HANDS SINCE THE GREAT STONES WOULD FALL AWAY FROM EACH OTHER--THE ENGINEERS OF ANCIENT EGYPT DEPENDED ON THE DELICATE BALANCE OF STONE ON STONE TO HOLD THEIR STRUCTURES TOGETHER!
BUT THIS GIANT SHOVEL CAN SCOOP IT RIGHT UP— SAND AND ALL! WITH THE SECOND PYRAMID ACTING AS A LEVER, THIS SHOULD BE A CINCH-- IT CUTS THE WEIGHT IN HALF!
NOW THAT IT'S BEEN SAVED FROM THE GEM, THIS PYRAMID SHOULD BE AROUND FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER 5,000 YEARS!
9

MEANWHILE, BACK IN SMALLVILLE . . .
GUESS THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS ABOUT SMALLVILLE'S OWN SUPERBOY NOW, EH, MR. AND MRS. KENT? OH, EXCUSE ME! I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE TALKIN' THIS WAY-- PROBABLY MAKES YOU FOLKS THINK OF . . . OF POOR CLARK!
WHY, NO, MR. PERKINS, SUPERBOY'S OUR . . . I MEAN . . . ER . . . WE'RE OVER THE FIRST SHOCK NOW!
SMALLVILLE GAZETTE
SUPERBOY SAVES WORLD'S TREASURES FROM THE GEM!

OH, DEAR! I JUST KNOW SUPERBOY WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN CLARK'S "DEATH"! AND I CAN'T . . . (SOB) GO ON LIKE THIS MUCH LONGER! KNOWING THAT OUR BOY CAN NEVER LIVE WITH US AGAIN!
NOW, NOW, MA! I'M SURE SUPERBOY CAN FIND A WAY! BUT FIRST HE MUST GET RID OF THIS THING THAT'S THREATENING THE ENTIRE EARTH!


BUT JUST HOW IS SUPERBOY TO RID THE WORLD OF THIS FORMIDABLE MENACE? LET US REJOIN HIM AS HE FOLLOWS THE GEM'S SEEMINGLY ENDLESS JOURNEY . . .
THE GEM GOT THROUGH INDIA AND CHINA WITHOUT DESTROYING ANYTHING THAT'S IRREPLACABLE! THE WORLD SHOULD BE RID OF IT SOON--IF MY PLAN WORKS! BUT WAIT! LOOK WHAT'S IN ITS PATH NOW!
FT. KNOX KY.

FORT KNOX, DEPOSITORY OF AMERICA'S VAST STORES OF GOLD, LIES IN THE PATH OF THE GEM!
I UNDERSTAND THE DANGER, SUPERBOY! BUT MY HANDS ARE TIED! THE LAW SAYS THIS GOLD CANNOT BE MOVED FROM THE AREA OF THE FORT AND THERE'S NO TIME TO CHANGE THE LAW!
THE GEM IS DUE HERE ANY MOMENT! IT WILL DEVOUR EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH! WAIT! I HAVE AN IDEA!

AND IN THE MINUTES WHICH FOLLOW . . .
HE'S STRETCHING THE BARS OF GOLD INTO STRANDS! WHAT FOR?

PRESENTLY, WHEN THE GEM'S INEXORABLE PATH BRINGS IT TO THE BILLION-DOLLAR STOREHOUSE . . .
HOW'S THAT? THE GOLD IS STILL WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE FORT AND YET IT'S NOT TOUCHED BY THE GEM!
AMAZING! AN ARCH OF GOLD!

ON AND ON, MILE AFTER MILE, AND STILL THE GEM MOVES RELENTLESSLY! UNTIL...
YOU'RE NEARLY AT THE DESTINATION I'VE IN MIND FOR YOU, MR. GEM. WE SHALL SOON SEE IF YOU WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD THE WORLD IN TERROR!
AND THEN...
I KNEW THAT IF YOU CONTINUED IN A PERFECTLY STRAIGHT LINE, YOU'D EVENTUALLY GO AROUND THE WORLD AND COME BACK TO WHERE YOU STARTED! NOW TO GET THESE GIANT REDWOODS OUT OF THE WAY AND SEE IF YOU RETURN TO YOUR HOME IN THE EARTH'S CENTER!
THEN, AS SILENTLY AS IT HAD APPEARED, THE HUGE, GLITTERING MASS SLIPS BACK TO THE NAMELESS DEPTHS FROM WHENCE IT CAME!
THERE ARE ENOUGH OF THESE REDWOODS TO GO DOWN INTO THE EARTH FOR MILES AND SEAL UP THIS EXIT FOR GOOD. WITH NO SCENT OF AIR OR SIGHT OF LIGHT, THERE'LL BE NOTHING TO ATTRACT THE GEM BACK TO THE SURFACE! BUT I'VE STILL GOT THE PROBLEM OF EXPLAINING CLARK KENT'S "DEATH"!
SHORTLY AFTER, IN SMALLVILLE...
HMM... THAT TRACTOR I USED TO TRY TO HEAD OFF THE GEM WAS ONE OF THOSE USED BY THE CABLE COMPANY TO BURY CABLE! THAT FACT MAY BE USEFUL IF A COUPLE OF OTHER THINGS CHECK...
NATIONAL CABLE CO.
DANGER!
CABLE BEING INSTALLED
AH!.. JUST AS I HOPED! MY X-RAY VISION REVEALS THAT THE OLD WOODEN MAIN THAT USED TO SUPPLY THE TOWN'S WATER RUNS UNDER HERE!
NATIONAL CABLE CO.
DANGER!
CABLE BEING INSTALLED
11

AND NEXT DAY, AS THE WORK OF REBUILDING THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE GEM GOES ON IN SMALLVILLE...
HEY! LOOK! THERE'S A BODY UNDER HERE!
IT'S CLARK KENT! HE WAS IN THAT ABANDONED WATER MAIN!
WHAT... WHAT HAPPENED?
HE'S ALIVE!
THIS IS JUST LIKE THE TRACTOR CLARK RODE WHEN HE WENT AFTER THE GEM! SEE! IT DIGS A TRENCH BEHIND IT FOR THE CABLE AND THEN COVERS IT OVER! THE PLOW MUST HAVE DUG INTO THE OLD WATER MAIN AND CLARK FELL OFF INTO IT!
AND WE WERE SO EXCITED BY THE SIGHT OF THE GEM, WE DIDN'T SEE HIM FALL! SINCE THERE WAS NO TRACE OF HIM AFTERWARDS, WE ASSUMED HE'D BEEN DEVOURED! IS THAT IT, CLARK?
WELL... I...ER... AH...
12
AND SEVERAL DAYS AFTER...
NOW THAT YOU ARE ONCE MORE WITH US AS A LIVING REMINDER OF YOUR HEROISM, I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND THAT WE HAD THE STATUE OF YOU RE-CAST TO FORM ONE OF SUPERBOY TO COMMEMORATE HIS BATTLE WITH THE GEM!
NOT AT ALL, MAYOR! AND I'M HONORED THAT YOU ASKED ME TO UNVEIL THE STATUE!
EVEN THOUGH I'M STILL LOOKING AT A STATUE OF MYSELF!
the End

ADVERTISEMENT

"NO STICKY HAIR, HANDS OR COMB!" SAYS BERT PARKS TV STAR OF "BREAK THE BANK"

IT'S HERE! THE NEW CREAM HAIR OIL THAT'S NOT STICKY OR GREASY! GROOMS HAIR PERFECTLY!

DIFFERENT BECAUSE IT'S LIGHT-BODIED.

TRY VITALIS HAIR CREAM— YOU'LL THANK ME FOR THE TIP!

HOMOGENIZED FOR EASY FLOW. IN HANDY SHAKER-TOP BOTTLE.

MONEY BACK

write us if you don't agree that it's the best cream tonic ever!

NEW! VITALIS Hair CREAM

—by Bristol-Myers, makers of famous Vitalis

SAVE MONEY! 49¢ SIZE EQUALS LEADING 50¢ SIZE CREAM OIL! (ALSO IN 27¢ SIZE)

CASEY
THE COP
PHOTOGRAPHER
HENRY BOLTHOFF
MY WIFE HAS BEEN AFTER ME TO HAVE MY PICTURE TAKEN.
I'D LIKE A PORTRAIT OF MYSELF!
YES SIR. WE HAVE A SPECIAL - THIRTY DOLLARS A DOZEN.
ULP - THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY. I'LL LET YOU KNOW LATER!
LATER...
WELL, I'VE GOT PICTURES OF MYSELF!
CASEY, DID YOU REMEMBER TO HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN?
I SURE DID!
THOSE STUDIO PHOTOGRAPHERS CHARGE TOO MUCH, SO I HAD MIKE, DOWN AT HEADQUARTERS, DO IT!
THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

"LUCKY" LUDEN'S and his pal go exploring in a haunted house...

(COUGH - COUGH) JEEPERS! IT'S HATCHET HATTIE THE KID HATER!

COUGH HIDE HERE!

IN A FLASH - LUCKY LUDEN'S GRABS THE CURTAIN CORD... THAT'S AN UNLUCKY COUGH, LAD! BUT MY HATCHET WILL STOP IT! (CACKLE, CACKLE)

HAVE A LUDEN'S FOR LUCK, PAL - AND REMEMBER, THE KID WHO COUGHS IS THE KID WHO GETS CAUGHT!

...AND LASSOES HATCHET HATTIE!

HEY KIDS! FOR GOOD LUCK, EAT LUDEN'S WILD CHERRY COUGH DROPS! TASTE LIKE REAL CHERRIES - AND SO GOOD FOR YOU, YOU CAN EAT 'EM IN SCHOOL!

LUDEN'S WILD CHERRY COUGH DROPS

Only 5¢

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN
WHEN HE WAS A BOY
THE VICIOUS SLASH OF A TIGER'S CLAW... THE DEEP-THROATED ROAR OF A RAVENING LION... THE FORKED DEATH THAT RIDES ON A SERPENT'S TONGUE... THESE THINGS BEAR NO TERROR FOR SUPERBOY. HOWEVER, THE SUSPICIOUS GLANCE OF LANA LANG IS FILLED WITH DANGER FOR THE BOY OF STEEL, AS ONCE AGAIN HIS FAIR-EYED NEMESIS TRIES TO UNMASK HIS IDENTITY. AND, WHEN CLARK ACCOMPANIES THE LANGS TO AFRICA, TO AVOID LANA'S PRYING CURIOSITY, HE COMES UPON A MYSTERY THAT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE TO SOLVE-- UNTIL HE UNRAVELS.....
"THE RIDDLE OF THE RAREST ANIMALS!"
SORRY TO FRIGHTEN YOU, FELLOWS--- BUT IT'S QUITE AN ORDEAL BEING SUPERBOY IN SMALLVILLE AND CLARK KENT IN AFRICA AT THE SAME TIME. I HAD TO TAKE THE QUICKEST ROUTE BACK... RIGHT THROUGH THE CENTER OF THE EARTH!

ONE MORNING IN SMALLVILLE, AS EVER-INQUISITIVE LANA LANG, THE GIRL WHOSE PET THEORY IS THAT CLARK KENT IS SUPERBOY, BURSTS INTO THE KENT HOME...
CLARK! DAD'S LEAVING ON ANOTHER JUNGLE TRIP, AND HE'S ASKED ME TO FIND OUT IF YOU WANT TO GO ALONG WITH HIM! WHAT DO YOU SAY, MRS. KENT?
IT.. IT'S WONDERFUL.., IF CLARK WANTS TO GO ALONG
HMMM...THE TRIP WOULD BE FUN.. BUT IF SHE'S ALSO GOING TO AFRICA, THE SECRET OF MY IDENTITY WOULD BE IN DANGER. WITH SO MANY UNEXPECTED EMERGENCIES, I MIGHT HAVE TO CHANGE TO SUPERBOY RIGHT BEFORE HER!
I'M SURE YOU'LL SAY NO. AFTER ALL, IF YOU'RE SUPERBOY--AS I SUSPECT--YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP ON PRETENDING THAT MEEK CLARK KENT IS TOO TIMID TO RISK HIS NECK IN THE JUNGLE.
YOU'RE WRONG, LANA! I'M GOING!
WHAT CAUSED CLARK TO MAKE UP HIS MIND SO QUICKLY?
VERY SIMPLE! THE LANGS' TRUNKS ARE ALREADY PACKED-AND LANA'S THINGS AREN'T INCLUDED! X-RAY VISION CAN BE A REAL HANDY GADGET AT TIMES.
DON'T BE SO SMUG, CLARK! LANA'S ALWAYS A LITTLE SMARTER THAN YOU GIVE HER CREDIT FOR! ON THE DAY OF DEPARTURE...
SO LONG, CLARK!
HE FELL INTO MY TRAP! WHEN HE RETURNS, I'LL BE ABLE TO PROVE HE'S REALLY SUPERBOY!
DON'T WORRY, MRS. KENT. WE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF CLARK.
YES--AND I KNOW HE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU AS SUPERBOY!
THE MOOD OF A PLEASANT OCEAN TRIP IS STRANGELY DISTURBED AS THE LANGS LAND IN AFRICA...
TOM! THAT MAN! WH-WHO IS HE? Y-YOU LOOKED POSITIVELY PALE WHEN HE SMILED AT YOU!
IT'S JENNINGS.., BASIL JENNINGS, THE ONLY ENEMY I HAVE IN THE WORLD!
2

HE WAS TREASURER OF THE HUNTERS CLUB- UNTIL I DISCOVERED THAT HE'D EMBEZZLED FUNDS. I EXPOSED HIM, AND HE THREATENED HE'D NEVER REST TILL *HE* RUINED *MY* CAREER... AND THIS IS HIS CHANCE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, TOM?
I FINALLY CON D THE ZOO TO ERECT I SPECIAL WING FOR THE EXHI IT OF RARE HORNED BEASTS I INTEND TO CAPTURE. THEY ALL FELT IT WAS IMPRACTICAL, AND WOULD TAKE YEARS, BUT I PROMISED THEM I'D COMPLETE THE TASK IN A MONTH!

IF I FAIL, I'M FINISHED... AND I'M AFRAID JENNINGS IS HERE TO SEE THAT I FAIL!
HMM... AND **SUPERBOY** IS HERE TO SEE THAT YOU *SUCCEED*. IT'S A GOOD THING I DECIDED TO COME ALONG.

SOME TIME LATER, AS THE SEARCH FOR THE HORNED BEASTS BEGINS IN EARNEST.....
ARE WE LOOKING FOR ANY PARTICULAR ANIMALS, MR. LANG?
YES, CLARK- A PYGMY RHINO, A WHITE ELEPHANT, AND AN *OKAPI*, THAT STRANGE VARI-COLORED BEAST THAT'S HALF ANTELOPE, HALF GIRAFFE. THEY ARE THE RAREST IN THE WORLD!

THEY'RE *SO* RARE HE MIGHT ALMOST AS WELL SEARCH FOR THOSE MYTHOL-OGICAL HORNED BEASTS-- THE *UNICORN* AND *HIPPOGRIFF*.
I MIGHT AT THAT. YEARS OF RESEARCH HAVE CONVINCED ME THOSE ANIMALS ACTUALLY *DID* EXIST AT ONE TIME IN AFRICA... AND MAY STILL SURVIVE IN SOME DARK HIDDEN CORNER OF THIS MYSTERIOUS CONTINENT.
3

SUDDENLY, ALL TALK STOPS AS....
KUNI! ANDRAGI! GET ROPES! LITTLE RHINOS--- THERE IN RIVER BANK! COME ON, CLARK-- OFF YOUR MOUNT!
HMM... INCREDIBLE.. AND YET NOT HALF SO INCREDIBLE AS WHAT I SEE... WITH MY *X-RAY VISION!*

THE EARTH BENEATH THAT BANK... HONEYCOMBED WITH UNDERGROUND CAVERNS. THEY'LL BREAK THROUGH AND PLUNGE TO DEATH UNLESS... HMM... MUST CHANGE TO SUPERBOY!
GO AHEAD WITHOUT ME. I.. ER... TWISTED MY ANKLE... NOT SERIOUS!
SOON, AS TOM LANG MASTERFULLY TAKES CHARGE OF THE DIFFICULT HUNT....
IT TOOK PRECIOUS MOMENTS TO GET THIS TREE FROM THE DISTANT FOREST LANDS. NOW TO PLUNGE UNDERGROUND WITH IT....
TRANSFORMED TO A HUMAN DRILL, THE BOY OF STEEL BORES HIS WAY TO THE UNDERGROUND TUNNELS, WHERE...
FLATTENING THIS TREE OUT, I CAN HOLD IT AGAINST THE ROOF OF THE CAVERNS AND PROVIDE THEM WITH A SOLID FLOOR THAT WILL WITHSTAND ALMOST ANY WEIGHT!
THIS SHOULD GIVE THEM FIRM FOOTING!
THAT EVENING, AFTER THE PRIZE SPECIMEN IS BROUGHT BACK TO CAMP....
CAN I HELP, MR. LANG? MY FOOT IS MUCH BETTER.
WE'D BETTER LEAVE IT TO THE NATIVES, CLARK. THEY'RE EXPERTS. WE WERE LUCKY TO GET A SPECIMEN WITH SUCH MAGNIFICENT HORNS, AND I'M TAKING NO CHANCES ON LOSING HIM, OR HAVING HIM INJURED IN ANY WAY.
HOWEVER, NEXT MORNING DESPITE ALL LANG'S PRECAUTIONS...
MR. LANG! L-LOOK! THE RHINO'S HORNS! TH-THEY'RE GONE!
IT.. IT MUST BE THE WORK OF JENNINGS! HE KNOWS A HORNED BEAST WOULD BE VALUELESS TO ME WITHOUT HORNS! B-BUT HOW DID HE GET PAST THE NATIVE GUARDS?

CAN'T WE SET OUT NOW-- AND FIND ANOTHER?
IMPOSSIBLE, CLARK. THERE ARE JUST ONE OR TWO HERDS OF DWARF RHINO IN ALL AFRICA...AND AFTER THE WAY WE SCARED THEM YESTERDAY, THEY WON'T RETURN TO THEIR HOMES FOR MONTHS! NOBODY COULD FIND ONE NOW!

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT. IF I COULD GET OUT OF THEIR SIGHT AND SWITCH TO SUPERBOY...
I'M GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE STROLL DOWN-STREAM, MR. LANG, AND...
YOU'LL DO NOTHING OF THE KIND! ATRAKI! MALANGI! BWANJI! KEM'L PRE INANTO-- PRET!

I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR BEING HERE, AND YOUR SAFETY. EVEN IF THE EXPEDITION FAILS, I'LL SEE TO IT THAT YOU'RE UNHARMED! JENNINGS WOULD STOP AT NOTHING-- SO I'M DETAILING HALF MY MEN TO GUARD YOU FROM DANGER! YOU'LL NEVER BE OUT OF THEIR SIGHT!

SOME DAYS LATER, AS THE LANG PARTY REACHES THE HEART OF ELEPHANT COUNTRY...
WE'RE LEAVING FOR THE HUNT NOW, CLARK-- BUT YOU'LL BE SAFER WITH THESE MEN WHO ARE GUARDING THE CAMP. THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT-- THEY'LL PROTECT YOUR LIFE WITH THEIR OWN!
TH-THANKS, MR. LANG.

AND AS THE PARTY DISAPPEARS IN THE DISTANCE, CLARK USES HIS REMARKABLE TELESCOPIC VISION, AND...
THERE--A WHITE ELEPHANT! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO HELP MR. LANG! IF ONLY THERE WERE SOME WAY FOR ME TO GET OUT OF THE GRASP OF THESE GLORIFIED BABY SITTERS WITHOUT AROUSING SUSPICION!

YES, THINGS ARE PRETTY TOUGH FOR CLARK IN AFRICA...BUT THEY'RE EVEN WORSE IN SMALLVILLE!
SO CLARK'S ENJOYING HIMSELF, IS HE? JUST WAIT TILL HE GETS HOME--THEN MY FUN WILL BEGIN--WHEN I PROVE BEYOND THE SHADOW OF A DOUBT THAT HE'S REALLY SUPERBOY!
Clark is having a fine time here. And except for the intense heat of the tropical sun, everything is perfect. Love Mother
5

MEANWHILE, UNAWARE OF LANA'S SCHEME, CLARK SEEMS TO HAVE SOLVED HIS PRESENT PROBLEM..
HMM..THAT SWAMP.. THAT'S ONE WAY TO GET AWAY FROM THEM WITHOUT AROUSING SUSPICION THAT I'M SUPERBOY.
LOOK--- THAT PRETTY FLOWER! I'M GOING TO GET IT!
NO! NO! LAND SWAMPY!
SECONDS LATER...
JUST AS I HOPED! I'M HIDDEN FROM THEIR VIEW HERE! ALL I NEED IS A FEW MINUTES AS SUPERBOY AND I CAN HELP MR. LANG REGAIN THE TIME HE'S LOST THROUGH JENNINGS' TRICKERY!
MOMENTS AFTER CLARK KENT FALLS INTO THE SWAMP, SUPERBOY EMERGES FROM A SELF-MADE UNDERGROUND TUNNEL, MILES AWAY!
THOSE ELEPHANTS ARE SEEKING WATER AND ARE RACING AWAY FROM MR. LANG AND HIS PARTY. WHAT I HAVE TO DO IS GET THEM TO CHANGE DIRECTION AND GO TOWARD HIM!
SOON, SHEARING THROUGH THE SOIL LIKE A SPEED-MAD BULLDOZER...
I'LL CIRCLE AROUND AND BRING THIS NEW BRANCH OF THE RIVER BETWEEN MR. LANG AND THE ELEPHANT HERD. ELEPHANTS CAN SMELL WATER FOR MILES, AND WHEN THEY CHANGE THEIR COURSE, THEY'LL BE GOING DIRECTLY TOWARD THE HUNTERS!
PRESENTLY...
THEY'RE BOUND TO MEET-- AND THE REST WILL BE UP TO MR. LANG'S SKILL AS A HUNTER. NOW TO RETURN TO THE SWAMP AS CLARK, AND LET THE NATIVES RESCUE ME!
THAT EVENING, AS TOM LANG ONCE AGAIN RETURNS TO CAMP WITH A PRIZE TROPHY....
I'M TAKING NO CHANCES WITH THIS SPECIMEN! LOOK AT THOSE MAGNIFICENT TUSKS! THAT STOCKADE SHOULD KEEP HIM SAFE FROM JENNINGS..AND I'M GOING TO STAY UP ALL NIGHT AND WATCH HIM.
AND I'M GOING TO TAKE MEASURES OF MY OWN!
LATER, AS CLARK IS SUPPOSED TO BE SOUND ASLEEP, A SCARCELY VISIBLE SWIRL OF COLOR FLASHES FROM HIS TENT!
TIMED MY EXIT PERFECTLY! THE GUARD JUST PASSED, AND SHOULDN'T BE BACK FOR THIRTY SECONDS.... ALL I NEED FOR MY LITTLE CHORE!
6

SOON, NEAR A DISTANT MOUNTAIN . . .
AAAH . . . LUCKY I FOUND THIS HUGE BLOCK OF QUARTZ. NOW TO HOLLOW IT OUT AND SHAPE IT INTO TWO SEMI-CIRCLES, AND I'M ALL SET!
SMAASSHHH!
AND, BACK AT THE STOCKADE . . .
I HAVE TO WORK SO FAST I'M INVISIBLE. I'LL SLIP ONE SECTION OVER THE ELEPHANT, AND THE OTHER UNDER THE GROUND BENEATH HIM.
MOMENTS LATER, THE RARE TUSKED BEAST IS COMPLETELY ENCLOSED IN A STRANGE CRYSTALLINE EGG SHELL . . . .
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANYONE TO GET AT HIM WITHOUT BREAKING THROUGH A FOOT OF SOLID QUARTZ! IT'S TRANSPARENT, SO THE GUARDS WILL NEVER KNOW THAT SUPERBOY'S HELPING. I'LL REMOVE IT EARLY TOMORROW MORNING AND, UNTIL I DO, THE ELEPHANT WILL BE COMPLETELY SAFE!
DON'T BE SO SURE, SUPERBOY!
NEXT MORNING . . . .
IT . . IT'S INCREDIBLE! NO SIGN OF A BREAK IN THE QUARTZ . . . AND YET . . THE TUSKS HAVE BEEN SAWED OFF ONCE AGAIN! I . . . I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!
AND . . WHEN MR. LANG HEARS THE NEWS . . . .
I . . I DON'T KNOW HOW JENNINGS DID IT . . BUT I . . I'M RUINED. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET THE SPECIMENS I NEED IN THE LITTLE TIME REMAINING.
HMM . . I'M USING MY MICROSCOPIC VISION . . AND YET . . . I STILL CAN'T FIND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR. THAT MEANS THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE EXPLANATION!
THE EXPEDITION'S A FAILURE, AND I MIGHT AS WELL ADMIT IT. PACK YOUR THINGS, CLARK. WE'RE GOING HOME.
WAIT, MR. LANG . . YOU . . YOU SAID SOME WEEKS AGO THAT YOU HAD A THEORY ABOUT MYTHOLOGICAL BEASTS. WHY NOT PUT IT TO A TEST NOW? THERE'S NOTHING TO LOSE!
7

SPLENDID IDEA, CLARK! IT'S THE ONE CHANCE TO REDEEM MYSELF! WE'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL THOUGH---USE INSECT REPELLENT TO GUARD AGAINST TSE-TSE FLIES--- AND WATCH OUT FOR SNAKES. IT'S DEEP IN DANGEROUS AND UNEXPLORED COUNTRY!

AS LANG'S SAFARI PROBES DEEPER AND DEEPER TOWARD ITS GOAL....
HMMM...JENNINGS IS ON OUR TRAIL....I'LL HAVE TO EXPECT TROUBLE... AND BE PREPARED TO COMBAT IT WITHOUT REVEALING THAT SUPERBOY'S IN THE JUNGLE HELPING!

EVENTUALLY, THE DESTINATION IS REACHED, AND...
IF MY THEORY IS RIGHT, SOMEWHERE WITHIN THAT CIRCLE OF HILLS IS A LOST VALLEY CONTAINING SPECIMENS OF THE WEIRDEST ANIMALS KNOWN TO MAN...ANIMALS WHOSE VERY EXISTENCE PEOPLE DENY TODAY!

THAT EVENING, SUPERBOY ONCE MORE SLIPS PAST THE GUARD WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT...
NOW TO PUT MR. LANG'S THEORY TO A TEST! I CAN DISCOVER MORE IN FIVE SECONDS THAN HE COULD IN MONTHS...BUT IF HIS IDEA IS RIGHT, HE DESERVES THE CREDIT FOR IT!

SECONDS LATER...
HE..HE WAS RIGHT...BUT THE VALLEY...IT'S COMPLETELY BLOCKED OFF FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD! ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO....

...AND THAT'S TO CRASH IN AND TAKE A COUPLE OF SPECIMENS OUT WITH ME. AFTER THAT, IT WILL BE UP TO MR. LANG TO USE HIS SKILL IN CATCHING THEM!
CRASH!!!
8

PRESENTLY...
MR. LANG.. LOOK... Y-YOU WERE RIGHT!
AKARI! BWUNO! ROPES... MAKE A CIRCLE OF MEN!

HOWEVER, AS SOON AS MR. LANG HAS SNARED THE TWO MOST VALUABLE SPECIMENS IN THE WORLD...

SPLENDID, LANG...YOU *BROKE* ME ONCE..AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO *MAKE* ME! TIE THEM ALL UP, MEN...WE'LL LEAVE IN THE EARLY MORNING..AND BY THE TIME THEY GET BACK TO CIVILIZATION, WE'LL HAVE SOLD THESE SPECIMENS FOR A FORTUNE!

JENNINGS.. YOU..YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!

DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS BEFORE THEY HATCH, JENNINGS...NOT WITH **SUPERBOY** AROUND! NEXT MORNING...

WH-WHAT? TH-THEIR HORNS... GONE! HE..HE MUST HAVE USED THE SAME TRICK AS I!

SO I DID.. ONLY I IMPROVED ON IT!

"LAST NIGHT I FOUND IT EASY TO FLEX MY MUSCLES AND STRETCH THE ROPES ENOUGH TO GIVE ME FREEDOM. THEN..."

WITH A LITTLE RED COLORING PRESSED FROM THESE FLOWERS, I SHOULD MAKE A PRETTY GOOD UNICORN OF THIS HORSE.. AND AFTER THAT ANOTHER BEAUTY TREATMENT SHOULD MAKE AN ACCEPTABLE HIPPOGRIFF OUT OF THE HIPPO....

THIS PLASTIC HORN WILL MELT IN A FEW HOURS... **AND THAT WAS JENNINGS' TRICK!** HE REMOVED THE HORNS ***BEFORE*** **MR. LANG CAUGHT THOSE BEASTS**, AND SUBSTITUTED HORNS WHICH MELTED WITHOUT A TRACE! I GUESSED HIS SCHEME WHEN MY MICROSCOPIC VISION REVEALED NO IVORY SHAVINGS ON THE GROUND WHERE WE HAD PENNED THE WHITE ELEPHANT!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE-- QUICK! WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING ILLEGAL, PUTTING PHONY HORNS ON THOSE ANIMALS WE MADE IT EASY FOR LANG TO CATCH TO PREVENT HIS GETTING GOOD SPECIMENS--- BUT **THIS** COULD MEAN JAIL!

MOMENTS LATER...

MIGHT AS WELL LET HIM ESCAPE...HE'LL BE PUNISHED ENOUGH WHEN MR. LANG RETURNS WITH THE *REAL* SPECIMENS, WHICH I HID. I'LL GET RID OF THESE, AND THEN GET BACK INTO MY ROPES AS CLARK KENT, TO BE RESCUED WHEN **SOMEONE ELSE** GETS OUT OF HIS BONDS FIRST!

SOME WEEKS LATER, IN SMALLVILLE...

AND WHEN CLARK GETS HOME, I'LL HAVE **MY** TRIUMPH!

Smallville Gazette

LANGS RETURN WITH WORLD'S RAREST HORNED BEASTS.

LIFETIME TRIUMPH FOR FAMED HUNTER

AFTER THE BOAT DOCKS, AND LANA KISSES HER PARENTS, HER BIG MOMENT COMES!

AAAHA! AFTER TWO MONTHS IN THE BURNING TROPICS, YOU'RE **NOT SUNBURNED!** THAT PROVES YOU'RE **SUPERBOY!** ONLY **SUPERBOY'S** INVULNERABLE SKIN WOULD BE IMMUNE TO THE FLAMING RAYS OF THE JUNGLE SUNLIGHT!

WHY...ER.. I..ER..I'M NOT SUNBURNED?

GATE 6

THERE! SEE FOR YOURSELF! AND HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN **THAT**-- CLARK KENT **SUPER-BOY?**

I...ER...CAN'T..IT..ER.. IT'S AMAZING!

WHEW--NOTHING I TELL HER WILL CONVINCE HER.. HAVE TO THINK HARD OR MY SECRET'S GONE FOREVER!

THAT'S PROOF, ISN'T IT?

CLARK **SUPER-BOY?** I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! YET...

MY ONLY CHANCE... I'LL REACH INTO THAT CAN... AND MEND THE TRUNK AS SOON AS I WITHDRAW MY HAND.

GATE 6

10

THAT AFTERNOON, AS CLARK HELPS MR. LANG UNPACK AND GREASE HIS GUNS FOR STORAGE....

I...I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THIS..MY GUN GREASE.. ALL USED UP. AND THESE FINGER MARKS. WHO'S BEEN USING IT... AND *WHY?*

G-GOSH.. GUN GREASE? WH-WHY, TH-THAT'S THE STUFF I USED FOR INSECT REPELLENT ON MY SKIN WHILE WE WERE IN AFRICA.

HA! NO WONDER YOU WEREN'T SUNBURNED THEN! GUN GREASE CONTAINS *DARK RED PETROLATUM* THE BEST SUNBURN PREVENTITIVE IN THE WORLD!

GRR... I WONDER... IS CLARK THAT DUMB..OR IS HE REALLY **SUPERBOY--** AND SO SMART THAT HE TRICKED ME ONCE AGAIN?

THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

OUT OF THIS WORLD by Necco

THE RINGS OF THE PLANET SATURN ARE MADE UP OF COSMIC DUST... BECAUSE THEY ARE VERY WIDE THEY CAST A LARGE SHADOW, YET THEY ARE SO THIN THEY CAN HARDLY BE SEEN WHEN VIEWED "ON EDGE"!

THESE DELICIOUS THIN **Necco** WAFERS ARE ALWAYS IN VIEW WHEREVER GOOD CANDY IS SOLD!

DOZEN'S 'N DOZENS IN EVERY ROLL!

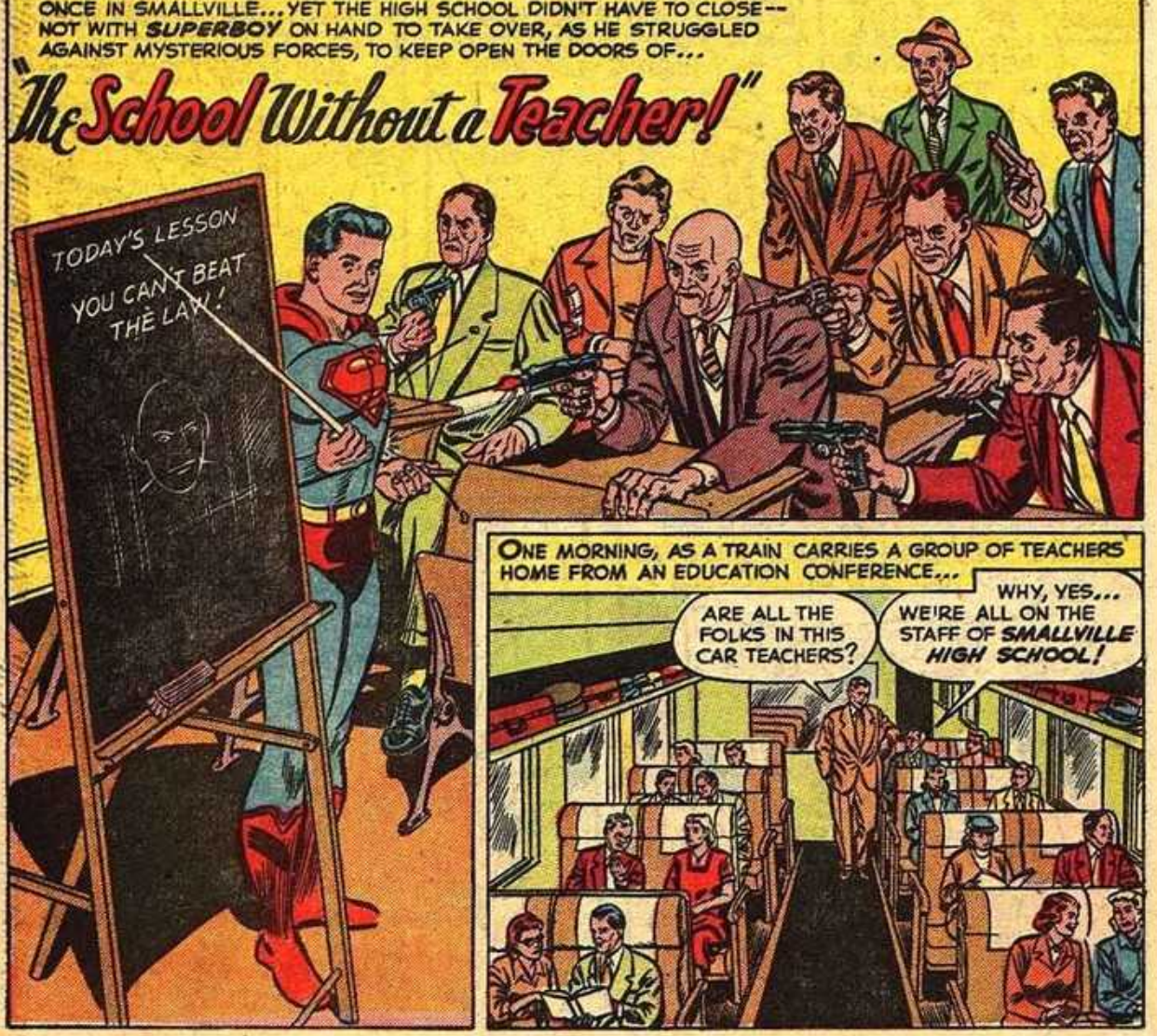
VARSITY VIC
SORRY!
HENRY BOLTINOFF
ER-ULP--
SLAM
AND.
THEY COULD AT LEAST LISTEN TO WHAT I'M TRYING TO SELL!
SLAM
LATER..
HELLO, VIC. HOW DID YOU DO SELLING MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS?
IT'S A SWELL MAGAZINE, DAD. I SOLD SIX SUBSCRIPTIONS TODAY!
FINE! I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD SALESMAN. DID YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE?
NOT MUCH! I TALKED MYSELF INTO IT AND BOUGHT THE SIX SUBSCRIPTIONS. YOU'LL GET THE BILL AT THE END OF THE MONTH!
THE END

SUPERBOY

The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY

WITH 30 OR MORE STUDENTS TO A CLASS, TEACHING IS A DIFFICULT JOB. BUT SUPPOSE THERE WERE THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS, DOZENS OF CLASSES--BUT ***NO TEACHERS?*** THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED ONCE IN SMALLVILLE...YET THE HIGH SCHOOL DIDN'T HAVE TO CLOSE--NOT WITH ***SUPERBOY*** ON HAND TO TAKE OVER, AS HE STRUGGLED AGAINST MYSTERIOUS FORCES, TO KEEP OPEN THE DOORS OF...

"The School Without a Teacher!"


TODAY'S LESSON
YOU CAN'T BEAT THE LAW!
ONE MORNING, AS A TRAIN CARRIES A GROUP OF TEACHERS HOME FROM AN EDUCATION CONFERENCE...
ARE ALL THE FOLKS IN THIS CAR TEACHERS?
WHY, YES... WE'RE ALL ON THE STAFF OF SMALLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL!

SMALLVILLE? MY NEPHEW GRADUATED FROM THAT SCHOOL --AND IF HE'S AN EXAMPLE, YOU FOLKS SURE DO A FINE JOB! ALWAYS WANTED TO SHAKE THE HAND OF EVERYONE OF YOU, AND NOW'S MY CHANCE! MY NAME'S TURNER!
GLAD TO KNOW YOU, SIR!
ER--HOW DO YOU DO?
AND AS THE STRANGER MAKES HIS WAY THROUGH THE CAR, WITH A SERIES OF HANDCLASPS...
IT'S NICE TO HAVE FOLKS APPRECIATE THE WORK WE'RE DOING, MR. TURNER! I--WHY-- GOODNESS -- WHAT IS IT?
A FUNNY HEADACHE... CAME ON ME ALL OF A SUDDEN!
SEEMS PRETTY BAD, WHATEVER IT IS... CONDUCTOR! THIS MAN'S ILL!
HMM...IF IT'S VERY BAD, MAYBE I OUGHT TO GET HIM TO A DOCTOR AT THE NEXT STATION!
SO, THE CONDUCTOR TAKES CHARGE OF THE STRANGER, AND THE INCIDENT IS FORGOTTEN UNTIL SEVERAL HOURS LATER, WHEN THE TRAIN REACHES SMALLVILLE...
WAIT, FOLKS...THE SMALLVILLE BOARD OF HEALTH HAS JUST RECEIVED AN URGENT PHONE CALL! A MR. TURNER, TAKEN OFF THIS CAR AT THE LAST STOP, WAS SUFFERING FROM A RARE CONTAGIOUS ILLNESS! UNTIL WE'RE CERTAIN THAT NONE OF YOU WERE INFECTED, YOU'RE ALL TO REMAIN UNDER QUARANTINE!
QUARANTINE? FOR HOW LONG?
AT LEAST FOUR WEEKS...WE CAN'T RISK STARTING AN EPIDEMIC! YOU'LL ALL BE ISOLATED COMFORTABLY AT THE SMALLVILLE SANITORIUM!
FOUR WEEKS? THAT MEANS THE SCHOOL WILL HAVE TO CLOSE!
SMALLVILLE
NEXT MORNING, AS YOUNG CLARK KENT TALKS WITH HIS CLASSMATES OUTSIDE SMALLVILLE HIGH...
SAY, CLARK--ARE THE TEACHERS PLAYING HOOKEY FOR A CHANGE? IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR CLASSES, AND NOT A SINGLE ONE'S ARRIVED YET!
I HEARD THEY WERE QUARANTINED. BUT WAIT... THAT CAR-- IT'S MR. REDDLES, HEAD OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION!
2

ALL STUDENTS WILL PLEASE REPORT TO THE AUDITORIUM AT ONCE, INSTEAD OF GOING TO CLASS! THE BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE!
HMM... MAYBE YOU WERE RIGHT, CLARK!
PRESENTLY, INSIDE THE AUDITORIUM...
...AND SINCE THERE'S A SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS AND NO SCHOOL NEARBY, WE'RE FORCED TO CLOSE SMALLVILLE HIGH FOR AT LEAST FOUR WEEKS! THAT'S ALL, YOUNGSTERS!.. YOU MAY GO HOME NOW!
GOSH-- HOW'LL WE EVER MAKE UP FOUR WEEKS' WORK?
I USED TO JOKE ABOUT HOPING SCHOOL WOULD CLOSE--BUT NOW THAT IT'S HAPPENED, WE MIGHT HAVE TO GO TO SUMMER SCHOOL TO MAKE UP THE WORK... WHICH MEANS NO CAMP FOR ME NEXT SUMMER!
I'LL NEVER KNOW ENOUGH FRENCH TO ENJOY MY TRIP TO PARIS!
I'M SUPPOSED TO KNOW ENOUGH MATH TO PASS MY COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS, TWO MONTHS FROM NOW! HOW WILL I EVER DO IT?
AND WHAT ABOUT ALL THE KIDS WHO'LL HAVE NOTHING TO DO NOW BUT HANG AROUND THE STREETS AND GET INTO TROUBLE? GOSH--THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR SUPERBOY!
BEHIND A CLUMP OF BUSHES, A SWIFT, SECRET TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE...
SOMEHOW, I MUST KEEP THE CLASSES GOING UNTIL THE TEACHERS GET BACK! HOPE THE BOARD IS WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH ME!
SO THAT AFTERNOON, A VISITOR APPEARS AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION...
AND SO, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I'M READY TO TAKE OVER FOR THE TEACHERS AND REOPEN THE SCHOOL!
BUT, SUPERBOY-- ARE YOU SUFFICIENTLY ACQUAINTED WITH ALL THE DIFFERENT SUBJECTS?

THESE TEXTBOOKS COVER ALL THE COURSES TAUGHT AT THE SCHOOL! IF YOU'LL GIVE ME FIVE MINUTES, I CAN TRANSFER THEIR CONTENTS TO MY SUPER-PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY!

AND AS THE BOY OF STEEL WHIRLS THROUGH THE BOOKS AT SUPER-SPEED...
Y-YOU MEAN--HE'S ACTUALLY READING AND LEARNING ALL THOSE PAGES RIGHT NOW? I DON'T BELIEVE IT--NOT EVEN OF SUPERBOY!
SHH--NO TALKING PLEASE... LET ME CONCENTRATE... IN ANOTHER FEW MINUTES YOU'LL SEE FOR YOURSELVES!

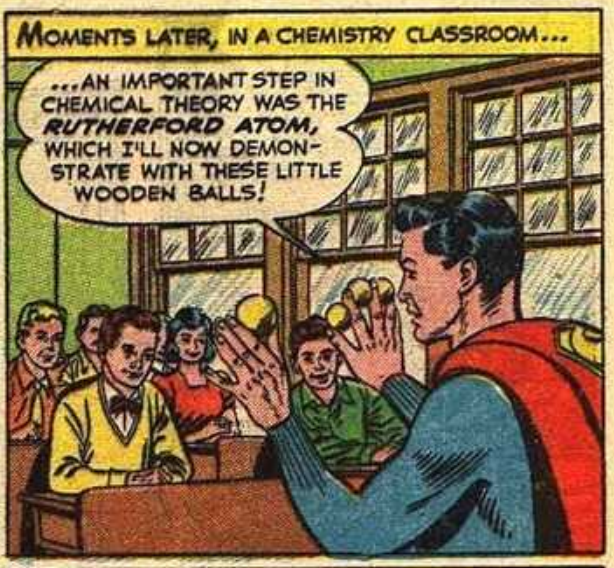
SHORTLY AFTER, HAVING FINISHED WITH THE BOOKS, SUPERBOY ASTOUNDS THE BOARD BY ANSWERING EVERY QUESTION FIRED AT HIM!
AND ONE LAST QUESTION ABOUT FINDING THE HYPOTENUSE OF A RIGHT-ANGLED TRIANGLE--
YOU'LL FIND THE FORMULA DISCOVERED BY PYTHAGORAS IN THE 6TH CENTURY B.C. ON PAGE 64... THE SQUARE OF THE HYPOTENUSE EQUALS THE SUM OF THE SQUARES OF THE TWO OPPOSITE SIDES!

AMAZING! HE'S MEMORIZED EVERY PAGE! YOU CAN CERTAINLY OPEN THE SCHOOL, SUPERBOY, PROVIDED YOU SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF TEACHING ALL THE DIFFERENT CLASSES AT ONCE!
COME AROUND TOMORROW, FOLKS, AND JUST SEE HOW I SOLVE IT!

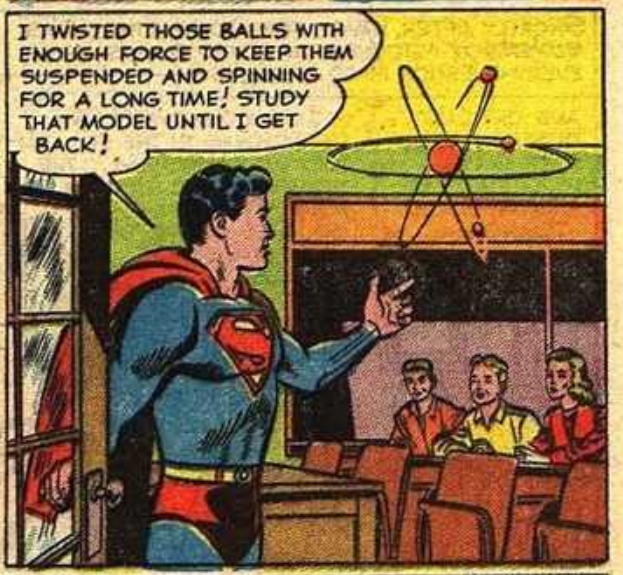
THAT SAME EVENING, SUPERBOY MAKES THE ROUNDS OF SMALLVILLE, NOTIFYING EACH STUDENT OF THE NEWS...
SWELL, SUPERBOY... WE'LL BE THERE! WE WOULDN'T MISS HAVING YOU FOR A TEACHER--NOT FOR ANYTHING!
WELL--DON'T THINK IT'LL BE ALL FUN! I INTEND TO MAKE YOU WORK JUST AS HARD AS YOU DO WITH YOUR REGULAR TEACHERS!

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, IN A CLASSROOM OF REOPENED SMALLVILLE HIGH...
I'VE GOT THE LANGUAGE CLASSES TRANSLATING PASSAGES, AND THE REST WORKING ON STUDY ASSIGNMENTS, WHILE I CONSTANTLY CHECK THEM ALL WITH MY X-RAY VISION! NOW TO GET ON WITH THIS PHYSICS CLASS...

WATCH CLOSELY, CLASS, THIS ARTIFICIAL LIGHTNING PRODUCED BY SLAPPING MY HANDS TOGETHER WITH SUPER-FORCE! NOW-- WRITE DOWN THE REASONS FOR ITS BEING DRAWN TO THAT METAL ROD, WHILE I CHECK THE OTHER CLASSES!


MOMENTS LATER, IN A CHEMISTRY CLASSROOM...
...AN IMPORTANT STEP IN CHEMICAL THEORY WAS THE RUTHERFORD ATOM, WHICH I'LL NOW DEMONSTRATE WITH THESE LITTLE WOODEN BALLS!

WITH A SUPER TWIST OF THE WRIST, SUPERBOY TOSSES THE BALLS INTO THE AIR, AND...
THERE--A WORKING MODEL OF RUTHERFORD'S ATOM! THE RED BALL REPRESENTS THE NUCLEUS, AND THE OTHER BALLS ARE THE ATOMS, WHICH REVOLVE AROUND THE NUCLEUS!


I TWISTED THOSE BALLS WITH ENOUGH FORCE TO KEEP THEM SUSPENDED AND SPINNING FOR A LONG TIME! STUDY THAT MODEL UNTIL I GET BACK!

AN INSTANT LATER, IN A SENIOR ENGLISH CLASS...
THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO STUDY HAMLET THAN BY SEEING IT! I MADE THESE PUPPETS LAST NIGHT...WITH VENTRILOQUISM, I'LL MAKE THEM PERFORM THE PASSAGE WE'RE STUDYING TODAY!

AND AS THE "PERFORMANCE" BEGINS...
HOW DOES MY GOOD LORD HAMLET? DO YOU KNOW ME, MY LORD?
EXCELLENT WELL! YOU ARE A FISHMONGER!

BUT JUST THEN...
GREAT SCOTT! MY X-RAY VISION DETECTS BLACK SMOKE POURING OUT OF A LAB CLASSROOM ON THE GROUND FLOOR! IT'S FILLING THE WHOLE CORRIDOR... MUST GET DOWN THERE -- FAST!
IMMEDIATELY, SUPERBOY DASHES DOWN TO THE MAIN CORRIDOR, WHERE...
HELP! FIRE! LET ME OUT!
IT'S NO FIRE--BUT SOMEONE WILL GET HURT IN ALL THIS PANIC, UNLESS I ACT FAST TO WIDEN THAT EXIT AND CLEAR THE AIR OF SMOKE!
SWIFTLY, THE BOY OF STEEL GULPS MASSES OF BLINDING SMOKE INTO HIS LUNGS, WHILE RIPPING OUT THE WALL ALONGSIDE THE JAMMED EXIT...
ALL RIGHT--THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM TO GET OUT! CALM DOWN, EVERYBODY... IT'S NOT A FIRE! YOU'RE SAFE!
LOOK-- IT'S SUPERBOY! HE'S WIDENING THE DOORWAY AND CLEARING AWAY THE SMOKE!
EXIT
THEN, AFTER GUIDING THE PUPILS TO SAFETY AND EXHALING THE SMOKE HARMLESSLY IN THE OPEN AIR...
HERE'S THE TROUBLE! JOHNNY WALTERS--YOU MIXED THE WRONG CHEMICALS IN THIS TEST-TUBE... THE ONES CALLED FOR IN TODAY'S LESSON WOULDN'T HAVE PRODUCED SMOKE!
BUT, SUPERBOY-- I FOLLOWED THE TEXTBOOK WORD FOR WORD! I COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE MIXED THE WRONG CHEMICALS!
WELL, SOMETHING WENT WRONG SOMEWHERE, JOHNNY--AND AS SOON AS I RESTORE THIS WALL, WE'LL TRY TO FIND YOUR MISTAKE!
YOU'LL SEE, SUPERBOY... I DIDN'T MAKE ANY MISTAKES!
PRESENTLY, BACK IN THE LAB...
GOOD GRIEF--NO WONDER! EVERY ONE OF THE ORIGINAL CHEMICALS HAVE BEEN SWITCHED! THESE LABELS ARE ALL WRONG!
GOSH, SUPERBOY-- NONE OF US WOULD PULL SUCH A DANGEROUS TRICK!
I'M SURE NONE OF YOU DID IT... BUT SOMEBODY IS BEHIND THIS-- SOMEBODY WHO DELIBERATELY TRIED TO CAUSE PANIC HERE! BUT WHO-- AND WHY?
6

BUT BEFORE SUPERBOY CAN CHECK ANY FURTHER...
OH, OH... MORE TROUBLE! EVERYBODY GO OUTSIDE AGAIN AND LINE UP QUIETLY... THERE'S A BURST WATER PIPE FLOODING THE 2ND FLOOR! THE CEILING WILL START LEAKING ANY MINUTE!
SECONDS LATER, ON THE FLOOR ABOVE...
S-SUPERBOY-- THE WHOLE PLACE IS GETTING WASHED OUT!
DON'T WORRY-- I'LL HANDLE IT! START DOWNSTAIRS IN FIRE-DRILL ORDER, WHILE I PLUG THE PIPE!
THEN, WHILE WELDING THE PIPE WITH SUPER-FRICTION...
I KNEW IT! SOMEONE DELIBERATELY TAMPERED WITH THIS PIPE-- WANTED IT TO BURST! THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! WHO'S BEHIND IT? IT'S AS IF...AS IF HE'S TRYING TO FORCE THE SCHOOL TO CLOSE! BUT WHY?... WHY?
AND AS SUPERBOY PUMPS OUT THE WATER...
BY BLOWING THROUGH THIS PIPE INSERTED INTO THIS LENGTH OF HOSE I FOUND IN THE BROOM CLOSET, I CAN GET THE WATER OUT BEFORE IT SEEPS TO THE FLOOR BELOW! AFTER THIS, I'LL SEND EVERYONE HOME UNTIL I'VE CHECKED THIS BUILDING THOROUGHLY!
AFTER CLEARING THE BUILDING, SUPERBOY MAKES MORE STARTLING DISCOVERIES AS HE MOVES FROM ROOM TO ROOM...
MORE SABOTAGE! THE HINGES WERE REMOVED FROM THESE DOORS! IF THERE'D BEEN A GYM CLASS THIS MORNING, SOME BOYS WOULD SURELY HAVE GOTTEN HURT HERE!
GYM
THIS POWER CABLE WAS DELIBERATELY WEAKENED, TO DEPRIVE THE SCHOOL OF ELECTRICITY!
THIS CEILING... SOMEONE CUT A DEEP RENT INTO THE PLASTER! PIECES OF IT COULD'VE FALLEN ON THE STUDENTS!
7

SAY-- I WONDER IF THERE'S ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THESE ATTEMPTS TO CLOSE THE SCHOOL AND THE QUARANTINE OF THE TEACHERS? MAYBE IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE -- BUT THEN AGAIN, MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING I COULD CHECK INTO, FOR SOME POSSIBLE LINKS!
SO, SHORTLY AFTER, AT THE SANITORIUM WHERE THE TEACHERS ARE KEPT IN ISOLATION...
BUT, SUPERBOY-- THIS MAN, TURNER, HAD A SERIOUS ILLNESS! WOULD HE HAVE DELIBERATELY CAUGHT IT, JUST TO GET US QUARANTINED SO THE SCHOOL WOULD CLOSE?
I CAN ANSWER THAT WHEN I LEARN WHAT POSSIBLE MOTIVE HE MIGHT HAVE HAD!

BUT AS SUPERBOY STARTS TO LEAVE...
WAIT, SUPERBOY! YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO LEAVE AFTER BEING IN CONTACT WITH THE TEACHERS!
WHEN I FINISH TAKING A SWIM IN THE POOL HERE, I THINK YOU'LL BE SATISFIED THAT I'M FREE OF GERMS, DOCTOR!

BUT A SWIM CAN'T STERILIZE—OH, MY GOSH! HE'S SPINNING THROUGH THE WATER AT SUCH TERRIFIC SPEED, HE'S HEATING IT UP!
IT'S STARTING TO STEAM! IN ANOTHER MOMENT, IT'LL BE BOILING!

AND BOILING WATER IS EXACTLY WHAT SUPERBOY WANTS! AS HE EMERGES, SOME MOMENTS LATER...
WELL--SINCE I BOILED MYSELF EXACTLY THE WAY YOU DOCTORS STERILIZE YOUR INSTRUMENTS, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO LEAVE NOW, DOCTOR?
GULP! ER...WELL, WHY, YES! OF COURSE!

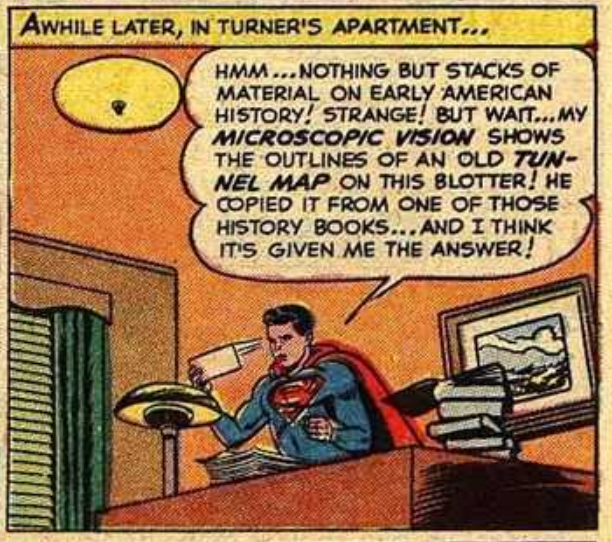
LATER, AT A HOSPITAL 50 MILES FROM SMALLVILLE...
THERE'S TURNER, SUPERBOY! NOW WITH HIS ILLNESS, THERE'S NO FEVER...JUST STEADY LUNG CONGESTION, HEADACHES, DIZZINESS, AND...
WAIT A MINUTE, DOCTOR! DID YOU SAY STEADY LUNG CONGESTION? ARE YOU SURE?
ISOLATION WARD

YES, LUNG CONGESTION IS THE CHIEF SYMPTOM! I COULD LISTEN TO HIS CHEST, RIGHT NOW, AND DETECT WHEEZING! WITHOUT THAT, HE COULDN'T HAVE THIS ILLNESS!
IN THAT CASE, DOCTOR, HE DOESN'T HAVE IT!

SUPERBOY! STOP! ARE YOU MAD?
DOCTOR, MY SUPER-HEARING TOLD ME THAT THIS MAN'S CHEST IS COMPLETELY CLEAR! HE ONLY FAKED WHEEZING DURING EXAMINATIONS! HE'S BEEN FAKING THIS WHOLE ILLNESS, AS PART OF A STRANGE PLOT! RIGHT, TURNER?

Y-YOU'RE C-CRAZY! L-LET ME GO! I'M A S-SICK MAN!
GRACIOUS, SUPERBOY--IF YOU DIDN'T HEAR HIM WHEEZE, THEN HE MUST BE FAKING! BUT AS A DOCTOR, I CAN'T JUST TAKE YOUR WORD!
I UNDERSTAND... BUT SINCE HE WON'T TALK, I'LL HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING ELSE! LET ME SEE THE HOSPITAL RECORDS!

AND AFTER FINDING OUT TURNER'S ADDRESS FROM THE HOSPITAL RECORDS...
DON'T WORRY, DOCTOR...HE WAS FAKING, I ASSURE YOU! BUT MAYBE AFTER I SEARCH HIS HOME, I'LL FIND HIS REASON! THAT'S THE BIG MYSTERY IN THIS CASE, SO FAR!


AWHILE LATER, IN TURNER'S APARTMENT...
HMM...NOTHING BUT STACKS OF MATERIAL ON EARLY AMERICAN HISTORY! STRANGE! BUT WAIT...MY MICROSCOPIC VISION SHOWS THE OUTLINES OF AN OLD TUNNEL MAP ON THIS BLOTTER! HE COPIED IT FROM ONE OF THOSE HISTORY BOOKS...AND I THINK IT'S GIVEN ME THE ANSWER!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD, INSIDE THE CLOSED SMALLVILLE BANK...
HUH? S-SUPERBOY! W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU'LL SEE IN A MINUTE... MY X-RAY VISION DETECTED SOME THUGS IN A TUNNEL BEHIND THIS VAULT, AND I'M ABOUT TO SURPRISE THEM!

SEE? NOT A MINUTE TOO SOON! THEY'VE ALREADY REACHED THE VAULT!
SUPERBOY!
I--I STILL DON'T GET IT! WHERE DID THEY START THE TUNNEL, AND--AND HOW COULD THEY DIG IT ALL BY THEMSELVES?

THEY DIDN'T DIG IT... IT'S BEEN HERE FOR THE PAST *100 YEARS!* THEY DISCOVERED AN OLD MAP OF IT, AND REALIZED IT LEADS FROM THE SCHOOL BASEMENT TO WITHIN A FEW YARDS OF THIS VAULT!

B-BUT HOW DID *YOU* FIND OUT ABOUT IT?

I FOUND THE MAP TRACED ON TURNER'S BLOTTER! THEN, REMEMBERING THAT THIS BANK IS PLANNING TO *MOVE* NEXT WEEK, I UNDERSTOOD WHY YOU *HAD* TO KEEP THE SCHOOL CLOSED... YOU HAD TO WORK *DAYS,* AS WELL AS NIGHTS, TO FIN'SH EXTENDING THE TUNNEL! WITH ALL THE STUDENTS THERE, YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN DETECTED!

AND SO, THE FOLLOWING MORNING...

SAY--THE TEACHERS... THEY'RE BACK! HOW COME? ISN'T *SUPERBOY* GOING TO TEACH TODAY?

HE DID TEACH-- YESTERDAY ONLY! IF YOU READ THE PAPER, YOU'D UNDERSTAND!.. POOR CLARK... YOU MISSED ALL THE FUN BY BEING OUT WITH A COLD YESTERDAY!

HIGH SCHOOL

10

YES, TOO BAD... IT SEEMS I'M *ALWAYS* MISSING THE FUN WHEN *SUPERBOY* IS AROUND!

The End

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